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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/055,539	01/23/2002	Steven M. Drucker	MS188916.1	8839

7590 08/24/2006

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EXAMINER

LUU, LE HIEN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2141

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

/ 10/055,539

Applicant(s)

DRUCKER ET AL.

Examiner

Le H. Luu

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 July 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

1. Claims 1-27 are presented for examination.
2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-14 and 16-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Horie et al. (Horie) Pub. No. US 2002/0094191, in view of Asami patent no. 6,747,674.

4. As to claim 22, Horie teaches the invention as claimed, including a method for generating thumbnails facilitating media browsing, comprising:

analyzing a media input (page 5, paragraph [0074 – 0077]);

generating a plurality of thumbnail image associated with the media input based at least in part upon analysis of the media input, the number of the plurality of thumbnail images is based at least in part on an analysis of the media input (page 5, paragraph [0069 – 0077]); and

displaying at least one of the plurality of thumbnail images (Fig. 2, page 5, paragraph [0069 – 0077]).

However, Horie does not explicitly teach the number of the plurality of the thumbnail images is based on time-span of the media input.

Asami teaches fifteen picture thumbnails created from still pictures at intervals of one minute of a moving picture having a duration of 15 minutes (Abstract; col. 3 lines 13-31).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Horie and Asami to generate the number of the plurality of the thumbnail images is based on time-span of the media input because it would allow user check the still pictures of a moving picture to be searched at desired points of time and desired time intervals and in a desired quantity.

5. As to claim 23, Horie teaches generating the thumbnail image further based at least in part upon at least one of a user's preference and a system default (page 5, paragraph [0074 – 0076]).

6. As to claims 1-14, 16-21, 24-27, limitations of claims 1-14, 16-21, 24-27 that are similar to limitations of claims 22-23 are being rejected under the same rationale. In additional, Horie teaches media input is time-based (page 4, paragraph [0064]), at least one media store such as hard disk, DVD; thumbnail selection component comprising a remote control; media input is based on at least cable television broadcast; and media display component and media delivery system coupled by a cable television connection; and display component is a TV screen (page 3, paragraph [0048]).

7. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Horie et al. (Horie) Pub. No. US 2002/0094191, in view of Asami patent no. 6,747,674 and "A

Multiscale Random Field Model for Bayesian Image Segmentation” by Bouman et al. (Bouman).

8. As to claim 15, Horie and Asami teach the invention substantially as claimed as discussed above; however, Horie and Asami do not explicitly teach the media analyzer utilizing a Bayesian decision making methodology.

Bouman teaches Bayesian image segmentation with multiscale random field (MSRF) and sequential maximum a posteriori (SMAP) (pages 1-2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the Data Processing art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Horie, Asami, and Bouman to use Bayesian decision making methodology to analyze media content because it would require less computation.

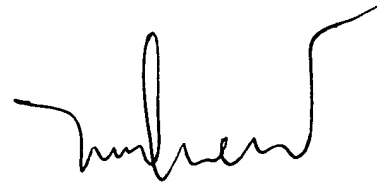
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Le H. Luu whose telephone number is 571-272-3884. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharra can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Le Hien Luu
Primary Examiner